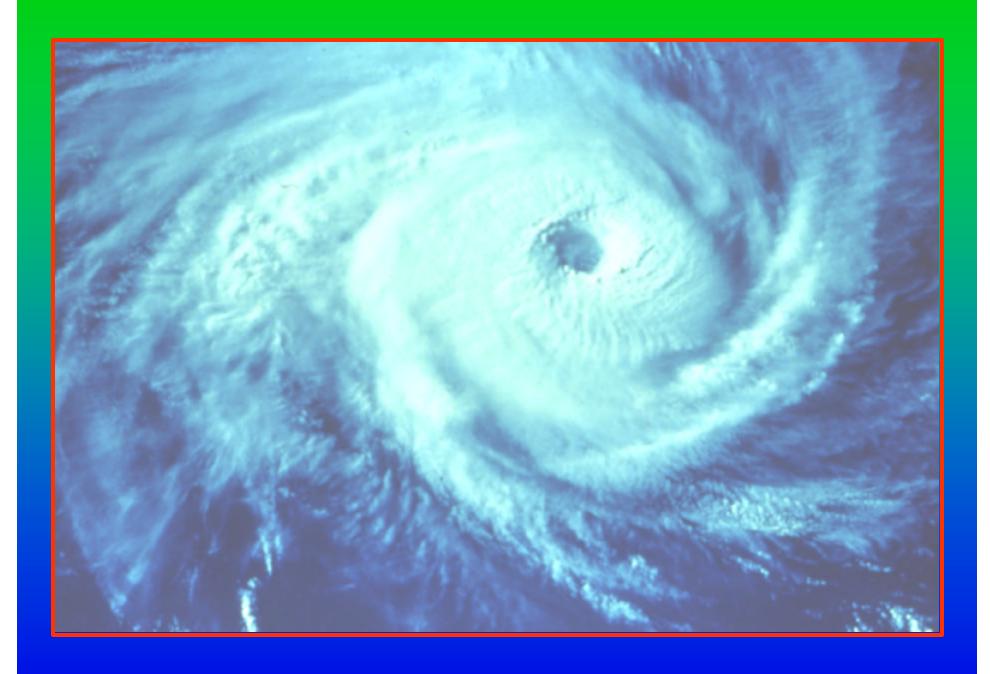
Disaster! What Will You Do When the Grid Disappears?

John P. Thornton, P.E.

Domestic PV Applications Development Project
National Center for Photovoltaics

National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Golden, Colorado





PSEUDO CRISIS



The Darvel Post / Barry Blaver

sembers of the National Medical Response Team carry a nock Street. State, local and federal agencies teamed up victim' on a stretcher to a decontamination unit on Ban-Sunday to practice responding to an act of terrorism.

Agencies stage mock emergency

Katherine Vogt

It looked like a bomb had gone off at mver city hall Sunday afternoon.

Dozens of people, many of them coverwith blood, were being carried on retchers, stripped of their clothing and rayed with a decontamination fluid in out of the building in Civic Center

A swarm of police officers, paramedand firefighters had responded to the one with fire trucks, ambulances and een a Flight for Life belicopter to treat e victims and get them to the hospital.

for alarm. The whole thing was an exer- vice. cise, in which state and local agencies joined forces to practice their response to an act of terrorism with a chemical weapon.

"This team is capable of doing this for real," said Dr. Charles Goldstein, unit commander of the Colorado National Medical Response Team.

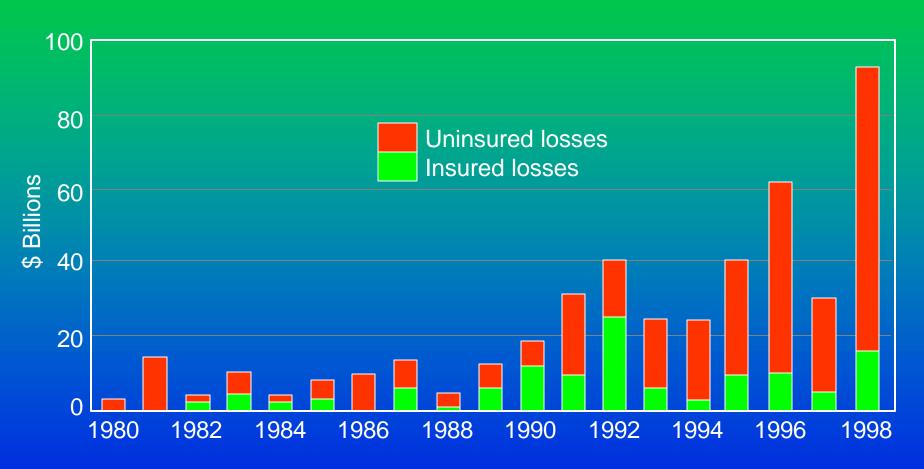
During the exercise, which took about three hours, rescuers from state, local and federal agencies "treated" about 10 pretend victims. The agencies included the Denver police and fire departments, the Tederal Environmental Protection

Rescue crews, most of them in protective mits, worked together to quickly get. victims decontaminated and provide them with medical care.

Victims, painted with fake blood, were asked to strip off their clothes and gointo a tent with showers. Those injured critically were placed on a table and bosed off with decontamination solution. Then local ambulance or helicopter crews stepped in to prepare the patients for transportation to the hospital.

All the while, members from the EPA were on hand to assess what hiological

Worldwide Property Losses Due to Extreme Weather Events



Source: Munich Re

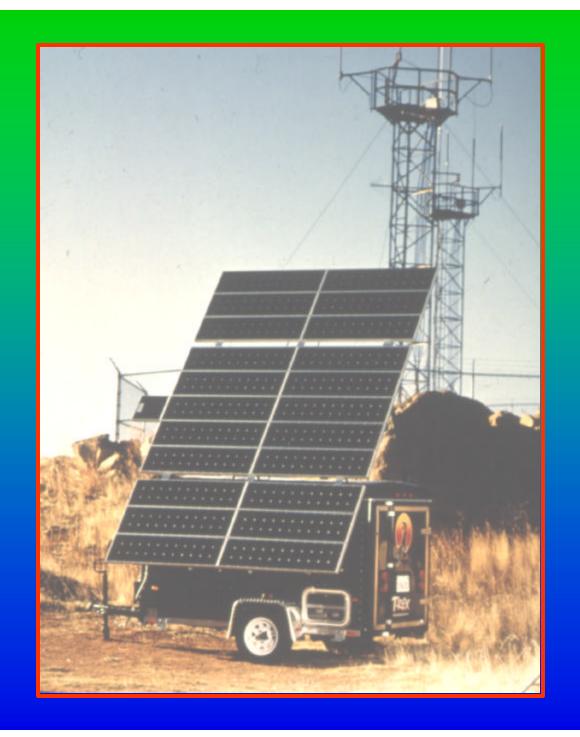




PV can help *prevent* disasters as well as *respond* to them.









Green Buildings are Disaster-Resistant Harmony Resort, St. Johns, Virgin Islands



- Green buildings show greater disaster-resistance.
- Renewable technologies provide heat and power when the grid disappears.

PV Systems are Disaster-Resistant





Before

After

What is Value of Electricity if you don't have any?

Blackout! It Can Happen To You. July 2, 1996





Before

After

Do not think of renewables such as PV as exotic. Think of them as commercially available, free standing, self-actuated, rugged, damage resistant, and grid independent power sources that can not only serve your needs year round, but will still be there when the grid disappears.





John Thornton, NREL

Phone: 303-384-6469

Fax: 303-384-6490

E-mail: mr_pv@nrel.gov